GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1590
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
HIRING OF ACCOMMODATION
MAHBOOB ZAHEDI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has not finalized the proposal for the construction of Chancery- cum-Embassy residences etc. at Beijing, Doha, Muscat and Gaborone on the plots acquired for the purpose;

(b) whether an expenditure of Rs. 26.27 crore on hiring of accommodation has been incurred till 1999-2000;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in taking decision in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken to expedite the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a), (c) & (d) Yes Sir, the Chancery-cum-Embassy residence projects at Beijing, Doha, Muscat and Gaborone on the plots of land acquired by the Government are at advanced stages of processing. Financial approvals have been obtained for undertaking the construction work in Doha and Gaborone. The process of finalisation of conceptual layout plans for the Chancery project in Beijing and Embassy Complex project in Muscat is nearing completion.

(b) Yes Sir, the total payment on rental in Beijing, Doha, Muscat and Gaborone between 1992-93 and 1999-2000 was Rs. 26.27 crores. It may also be mentioned that the combined annual rental liability in these countries is Rs. 4.64 crores. The construction cost has been estimated at Rs. 93 crores.